

4000-01-U

#### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Applications for New Awards; Full-Service Community Schools
Program

AGENCY: Office of Innovation and Improvement, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

# Overview Information:

Full-Service Community Schools Program

Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2014.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.215J.

#### Dates:

Applications Available: [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

Deadline for Notice of Intent to Apply: [INSERT DATE 15

DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

Date of Pre-Application Webinar: Wednesday, May 21, 2014.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: [INSERT DATE 45

DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: [INSERT DATE 60

DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

### Full Text of Announcement

# I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The Fund for the Improvement of Education (FIE), which is authorized by section 5411 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA), supports nationally significant programs to improve the quality of elementary and secondary education at the State and local levels and to help all children meet challenging academic content and academic achievement standards. The Full-Service Community Schools (FSCS) program, which is funded under FIE, encourages coordination of academic, social, and health services through partnerships between (1) public elementary and secondary schools; (2) the schools' local educational agencies (LEAs); and (3) community-based organizations, nonprofit organizations, and other public or private entities. purpose of this collaboration is to provide comprehensive academic, social, and health services for students, students' family members, and community members that will result in improved educational outcomes for children. FSCS program is a "place-based" program (see http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/assets/me moranda fy2009/m09-28.pdf) that can leverage investments by focusing resources and drawing on the compounding effects of well-coordinated actions. Place-based approaches can also streamline otherwise redundant and disconnected programs.

<u>Priorities</u>: This notice contains one absolute priority and one competitive preference priority. The absolute priority is from the notice of final priorities, requirements, definitions, and selection criteria for this program (FSCS NFP), published in the <u>Federal Register</u> on June 8, 2010 (75 FR 32440). The competitive preference priority is from the notice of final priority for Promise Zones (Promise Zones NFP), published in the <u>Federal Register</u> on March 27, 2014 (79 FR 17035).

Absolute Priority: For FY 2014 and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applications from this competition, this priority is an absolute priority. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3) we consider only applications that meet this priority.

This priority is:

Projects that Establish or Expand Full-Service Community Schools.

Background:

In order for children to be ready and able to learn, they need academic, social, and health supports. The Harvard Family Research Project has cited compelling evidence that, when schools partner with families and community-based organizations, these partnerships improve children's development and school success. Community schools provide a base of support for students and their families by attending to their academic, social, and health needs through a school setting.

A full-service community school (as defined in this notice) is a public elementary or secondary school that works with its LEA and community-based organizations, nonprofit organizations, and other public or private entities to provide a coordinated and integrated set of comprehensive academic, social, and health services that respond to the needs of its students, students' family members, and community members. This coordination leads to results-focused partnerships (as defined in this notice) that are based on identified student needs and organized around a set of mutually defined results and outcomes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Harris, E & Wilkes, S (2013). <u>Partnerships for Learning: Community Support for Youth Success</u>. Cambridge: Harvard Family Research Project.

Full-service community schools recognize that schools do not operate in isolation from the communities in which they are located. Community challenges such as poverty, violence, poor physical health, and family instability can have consequences for education when left unaddressed. When schools and community partners collaborate to address these issues and align their resources to achieve common results, children are more likely to succeed academically, socially, and physically. Full-service community schools seek to address the myriad challenges that affect students by connecting students, students' family members, and community members with available services and opportunities, creating the conditions for students to achieve in school and beyond.

Children, particularly those living in poverty, need a variety of family and community resources, including intellectual, social, physical, and emotional supports, to have the opportunity to attain academic success. Many children live in communities that lack not only high-performing schools, but also the supports needed to be ready and able to learn when they start school. School-community partnerships can be key strategies for providing resources to these individual students. A variety of

organizations can help provide the missing resources for children living in poverty and, therefore, begin to transform struggling schools and communities. These organizations can be public or private, community-based or faith-based, governmental or non-governmental, or a combination thereof, but they must work together with clearly articulated and mutually agreed upon goals, target populations, roles, and desired results and outcomes. Partnerships between schools and organizations may take many forms and should be based on overlapping vital interests and student needs. For example, a telecommunications firm might provide internships to high school students to foster real-world connections to the school's science curriculum. Or, a local police department might provide mentors for troubled youth in order to keep students in school. Such results-focused partnerships (as defined in this notice) can transform the capacity of both the school and its partners to better serve students' and families' diverse needs and improve their outcomes.

A full-service community school coordinator (as defined in this notice) is often central to the effective facilitation of these partnerships, as well as the coordination and integration of services, programs,

supports, and available opportunities. The full-service community school coordinator's main responsibility is to work closely and plan jointly with the school's principal to drive, develop, and implement the community school effort. The full-service community school coordinator by, for example, convening a cross-section of school staff, parents, and community organizations, can facilitate the development of systems with which to coordinate new and existing programs that respond to the needs of the school and community through ongoing needs assessments. The full-service community school coordinator adds capacity to the principal's leadership of the school and is essential to ensuring that all programs, supports, services, opportunities, and the mutually defined results and outcomes are fully aligned.

The Department of Education (the Department)
recognizes that in order for students and the members of
the communities in which they reside to thrive, their
schools must be effective. Effective schools create
learning environments that support student academic success
and foster student engagement. When characterized by
stable leadership and a strong instructional program, fullservice community schools have been associated with

improved attendance and student achievement, increased family and community engagement, and improved student behavior and youth development. In addition, system-wide support should be present for developing, implementing, and sustaining effective full-service community schools. There is greater potential impact when full-service community schools have strong infrastructures in place to support sustaining the overall effort and expanding the number of FSCS sites throughout an LEA.

## Priority:

This absolute priority supports projects that propose to establish or expand (through collaborative efforts among LEAs, community-based organizations, nonprofit organizations, and other public and private entities) full-service community schools, as defined in this notice, offering a range of services. To meet this priority, an applicant must propose a project that is based on

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Krenichyn, K., Clark, H. & Benitez, L. (2008). <u>Children's Aid Society</u> 21st Century Community Learning Centers After-School Programs at Six <u>Middle Schools: Final Report of a Three-Year Evaluation, 2004-2007</u>. New York: ActKnowledge.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Quinn, J., & Dryfoos, J. (2009). <u>Freeing teachers to teach: Students in full-service community schools are ready to learn. American Educator</u>, Summer 2009:16-21.

Whalen, S. (2007). Three Years Into Chicago's Community Schools Initiative (CSI): Progress, Challenges, and Emerging Lessons. Chicago: University of Illinois at Chicago. Retrieved April 9, 2010. from http://www.aypf.org/documents/CSI ThreeYearStudy.pdf.

scientifically based research--as defined in section

9101(37) of the ESEA--and that establishes or expands a

full-service community school. Each applicant must propose
to provide at least three of the following eligible
services at each participating full-service community
school included in its proposed project:

- 1. High-quality early learning programs or services.
- 2. Remedial education, aligned with academic supports and other enrichment activities, providing students with a comprehensive academic program.
- 3. Family engagement, including parental involvement, parent leadership, family literacy, and parent education programs.
  - 4. Mentoring and other youth development programs.
- 5. Community service and service learning opportunities.
- 6. Programs that provide assistance to students who have been chronically absent, truant, suspended, or expelled.
  - 7. Job training and career counseling services.
  - 8. Nutrition services and physical activities.
  - 9. Primary health and dental care.

- 10. Activities that improve access to and use of social service programs and programs that promote family financial stability.
  - 11. Mental health services.
- 12. Adult education and literacy services including instruction of adults in English as a second language.

  Competitive Preference Priority: For FY 2014 and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applicants from this competition, this priority is a competitive preference priority. Under 34 CFR

  75.105(c)(2)(i) we award an additional three points to an application, depending on whether the application meets this priority.

This priority is:

Promise Zones (0 or 3 points).

### Background:

We give competitive preference to applicants working with communities that have been awarded a Promise Zone designation. Promise Zone designees have committed to establishing comprehensive, coordinated approaches in order to ensure that America's most vulnerable children succeed from cradle to career. In January 2014, President Obama announced the first five Promise Zones: The Choctaw Nation

of Oklahoma, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, San Antonio, and Kentucky Highlands. This designation is designed to assist local leaders in creating jobs, increasing economic activity, improving educational opportunities, leveraging private investment, and reducing violent crime in high-poverty urban, rural, and tribal communities. By partnering with Promise Zone designees, the Federal government will help communities access the resources and expertise they need--including the resources from various neighborhood revitalization initiatives--to ensure that Federal programs and resources support the efforts to transform these communities.

# Priority:

Projects that are designed to serve and coordinate with a federally designated Promise Zone.

Note: Applicants should submit a letter of support from the lead organization of a designated Promise Zone attesting to the contribution of the applicant's proposed activities. A list of designated Promise Zones and lead organizations can be found at http://hud.gov/promisezones.

Definitions: The following definitions are from the FSCS

NFP and from 34 CFR 77.1(c).

Community member means an individual who is not a student or a student's family member, as defined in this notice, but who lives in the community served by the FSCS grant.

Full-service community school means a public elementary or secondary school that works with its local educational agency and community-based organizations, nonprofit organizations, and other public or private entities to provide a coordinated and integrated set of comprehensive academic, social, and health services that respond to the needs of its students, students' family members, and community members. In addition, a full-service community school promotes family engagement by bringing together many partners in order to offer a range of supports and opportunities for students, students' family members, and community members.

Full-service community school coordinator means an individual who works closely and plans jointly with the school's principal to drive the development and implementation of the FSCS effort and who, in that capacity, facilitates the partnerships and coordination and integration of service delivery.

Relevant outcome means the student outcome(s) (or the ultimate outcome if not related to students) the proposed process, product, strategy, or practice is designed to improve; consistent with the specific goals of a program.

Results-focused partnership means a partnership between a full-service community school and one or more nonprofit organizations (including community-based organizations) that is based on identified needs and organized around a set of mutually defined results and outcomes for increasing student success and improving access to family and community services.

Student means a child enrolled in a public elementary or secondary school served by the FSCS grant.

Student's family member means the student's parents/guardians, siblings, and any other related individuals living in the same household as the student and not enrolled in the school served by the FSCS grant.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 7243-7243b.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department

General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts

74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 84, 86, 97, 98, and 99. (b)

The Education Department suspension and debarment

regulations in 2 CFR part 3485. (c) The notice of final

priorities, requirements, definitions, and selection criteria (NFP) for this program, published in the <u>Federal</u>

<u>Register</u> on June 8, 2010 (75 FR 32440). (d) The notice of final priority for Promise Zones, published in the <u>Federal</u>

Register on March 27, 2014 (79 FR 17035).

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 79 apply to all applicants except federally recognized Indian tribes.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

# Application Requirements:

The following requirements are from the FSCS NFP.

In order to receive funding, an applicant must include the following in its application:

1. A description of the needs of the students, students' family members, and community members to be served, including information about (a) the basic demographic characteristics of the students, students' family members, and community members; (b) the magnitude or severity of the needs to be addressed by the project; and (c) the extent to which specific gaps or weaknesses in services, infrastructures, or opportunities have been identified and will be addressed by the proposed project.

- 2. A list of entities that will partner with the applicant to coordinate existing services or to provide additional services that promote successful student, family, and community results and outcomes. The applicant must describe how existing resources and services will be coordinated and integrated with new resources and services.
- 3. A memorandum of understanding between the applicant and all partner entities, describing the role each partner will assume, the services or resources each one will provide, and the desired results and outcomes.
- 4. A description of the organizational capacity of the applicant to provide and coordinate eligible services at a full-service community school that will support increased student achievement. The description must include the applicant's experience partnering with the target school(s) and other partner entities; examples of how the applicant has responded to challenges working with these schools and entities; lessons learned from similar work or previous community-school efforts, and a description of the existing or proposed infrastructure to support the implementation and sustainability of the full-service community school. Applicants must also describe their past experience (a) building relationships and

community support to achieve results; and (b) collecting and using data for decision-making and continuous improvement.

5. A comprehensive plan based on results-focused partnerships (as defined in this notice) that includes a description of well-aligned goals, services, activities, objectives, performance measures, and project results and outcomes. In addition, the plan must include the estimated total number of individuals to be served, disaggregated by the number of students, students' family members, and community members, and the type and frequency of services to be provided to each group.

Note: Applicants are also encouraged to articulate in the comprehensive plan how the proposed FSCS strategy is aligned with other school improvement strategies and Federal funding streams.

6. A list and description of the eligible services to be provided or coordinated by the applicant and the partner entities; a description of the applicant's approach to integrating new and existing programs and services with the school's (or schools') core instructional program; and identification of the intended results and outcomes.

- 7. A description of how the applicant will use data to drive decision-making and measure success. This includes a description of the applicant's plans to monitor and assess outcomes of the eligible services provided and coordinated by the FSCS project, as well as the number of individuals served, while complying with Federal, State, and other privacy laws and requirements.
- 8. A description of the roles and responsibilities of a full-time full-service community school coordinator and the proposed approach to ensuring that the full-service community school coordinator engages in joint planning with the principal and key community stakeholders to guide the proposed full-service community school.

Applications that do not meet these requirements will not be read and will not be considered for funding.

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Discretionary grants.

Estimated Available Funds: \$4,570,250.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$275,000 - \$500,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$457,025.

Maximum Award: \$500,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 10.

<u>Note</u>: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 60 months.

# III. Eligibility Information

- 1. Eligible Applicants: To be eligible for a grant under this competition, an applicant must be a consortium consisting of an LEA and one or more community-based organizations, nonprofit organizations, or other public or private entities. Consortia must comply with the provisions governing group applications in 34 CFR 75.127 through 75.129 of EDGAR.
- 2. <u>Cost Sharing or Matching</u>: To be eligible for an award, a portion of the services provided by the applicant must be supported through non-Federal contributions, either in cash or in-kind donations. The applicant must propose the amount of cash or in-kind resources to be contributed for each year of the grant.

Note: An applicant is encouraged to provide a minimum match of 20 percent through non-Federal contributions, either in cash or in-kind donations.

3. <u>Planning</u>: Interagency collaborative efforts are highly complex undertakings that require extensive planning and communication among partners and key stakeholders.

Partnerships should be based on identified needs and organized around a set of mutually-defined results and outcomes. Applicants under this program may devote funds received during the first year of the project period to comprehensive program planning, establishing resultsfocused partnerships, and capacity building. Funding received by grantees during the remainder of the project period must be devoted to program implementation.

## IV. Application and Submission Information

## 1. Address to Request Application Package:

You can obtain an application package via the Internet or from the Education Publications Center (ED Pubs). To obtain a copy via the Internet, use the following address: http://www2.ed.gov/programs/communityschools/applicant.html

To obtain a copy from ED Pubs, write, fax, or call the following: ED Pubs, U.S. Department of Education, P.O. Box 22207, Alexandria, VA 22304. Telephone, toll free: 1-877-433-7827. FAX: (703) 605-6794. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) or a text telephone (TTY), call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free: 1-877-576-7734.

You can contact ED Pubs at its Website, also: www.EDPubs.gov or at its e-mail address: edpubs@inet.ed.gov.

If you request an application from ED Pubs, be sure to identify this program or competition as follows: CFDA number 84.215J.

Individuals with disabilities can obtain a copy of the application package in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) by contacting the person or team listed under <u>Accessible Format</u> in section VIII of this notice.

2. <u>Content and Form of Application Submission</u>:

Requirements concerning the content of an application,
together with the forms you must submit, are in the
application package for this competition.

Notice of Intent to Apply: The Department will be able to develop a more efficient process for reviewing grant applications if it has a better understanding of the number of entities that intend to apply for funding under this competition. Therefore, each potential applicant is strongly encouraged to notify the Department by sending a short e-mail message indicating the applicant's intent to submit an application for funding. The e-mail need not

include information regarding the content of the proposed application, only the applicant's intent to submit it.

This e-mail notification should be sent to FSCS@ed.gov with "INTENT TO APPLY" in the subject line by [INSERT DATE 15 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

Applicants that do not notify us of their intent to apply may still apply for funding.

Page Limit: The application narrative (Part III of the application) is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application.

You are strongly encouraged to limit the application narrative [Part III] to the equivalent of no more than 35 pages, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11", on one side only, with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.
- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
- Use a font that is either 12 point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).

• Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New, or Arial. An application submitted in any other font (including Times Roman or Arial Narrow) will not be accepted.

The page limit does not apply to Part I, the cover sheet; Part II, the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography, or the letters of support. However, the page limit does apply to all of the application narrative section [Part III].

# 3. Submission Dates and Times:

Applications Available: [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

Deadline for Notice of Intent to Apply: [INSERT DATE 15]
DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

Date of Pre-Application Webinar: The Department will hold a pre-application webinar for prospective applicants on Wednesday, May 21, 2014, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Washington, DC time. The webinar will discuss the purpose of the FSCS program, absolute and competitive preference priorities, application requirements, definitions,

selection criteria, application content, submission requirements, and reporting requirements.

Interested parties may obtain information about this webinar from the program Website at

http://www2.ed.gov/programs/communityschools/index.html. A recording of this webinar will be available on this Website following the session.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: [INSERT DATE 45 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

Applications for grants under this program must be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov Apply site (Grants.gov). For information (including dates and times) about how to submit your application electronically, or in paper format by mail or hand delivery if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, please refer to section IV.

## 4. Other Submission Requirements of this notice.

We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements.

Individuals with disabilities who need an accommodation or auxiliary aid in connection with the application process should contact the person listed under For Further Information Contact in section VII of this

notice. If the Department provides an accommodation or auxiliary aid to an individual with a disability in connection with the application process, the individual's application remains subject to all other requirements and limitations in this notice.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

- 5. Intergovernmental Review: This competition is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. Information about Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs under Executive Order 12372 is in the application package for this competition.
- 6. <u>Funding Restrictions</u>: We reference regulations outlining funding restrictions in the <u>Applicable</u>
  Regulations section in this notice.
- 7. <u>Data Universal Numbering System Number, Taxpayer</u>

  <u>Identification Number, and Central Contractor Registry</u>: To

  do business with the Department of Education, you must--
- a. Have a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN);
- b. Register both your DUNS number and TIN with the System for Award Management (SAM) (formerly the Central

Contractor Registry (CCR)), the Government's primary registrant database;

- c. Provide your DUNS number and TIN on your application; and
- d. Maintain an active SAM registration with current information while your application is under review by the Department and, if you are awarded a grant, during the project period.

You can obtain a DUNS number from Dun and Bradstreet. A DUNS number can be created within one-to-two business days.

If you are a corporate entity, agency, institution, or organization, you can obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service. If you are an individual, you can obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service or the Social Security

Administration. If you need a new TIN, please allow 2-5 weeks for your TIN to become active.

The SAM registration process can take approximately seven business days, but may take upwards of several weeks, depending on the completeness and accuracy of the data entered into the SAM database by an entity. Thus, if you think you might want to apply for Federal financial assistance under a program administered by the Department, please allow

sufficient time to obtain and register your DUNS number and TIN. We strongly recommend that you register early.

Note: Once your SAM registration is active, you will need to allow 24 to 48 hours for the information to be available in Grants.gov and before you can submit an application through Grants.gov.

If you are currently registered with SAM, you may not need to make any changes. However, please make certain that the TIN associated with your DUNS number is correct. Also note that you will need to update your registration annually. This may take three or more business days.

Information about SAM is available at www.SAM.gov. To further assist you with obtaining and registering your DUNS number and TIN in SAM or updating your existing SAM account, we have prepared a SAM.gov Tip Sheet, which you can find at: http://www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/sam-faqs.html.

In addition, if you are submitting your application via Grants.gov, you must (1) be designated by your organization as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR); and (2) register yourself with Grants.gov as an AOR. Details on these steps are outlined at the following Grants.gov Web page:

http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html.

# 7. Other Submission Requirements:

Applications for grants under this competition must be submitted electronically unless you qualify for an exception to this requirement in accordance with the instructions in this section.

# a. Electronic Submission of Applications.

Applications for grants under the FSCS Program, CFDA Number 84.215J, must be submitted electronically using the Government wide Grants.gov Apply site at www.Grants.gov. Through this site, you will be able to download a copy of the application package, complete it offline, and then upload and submit your application. You may not e-mail an electronic copy of a grant application to us.

We will reject your application if you submit it in paper format unless, as described elsewhere in this section, you qualify for one of the exceptions to the electronic submission requirement and submit, no later than two weeks before the application deadline date, a written statement to the Department that you qualify for one of these exceptions. Further information regarding calculation of the date that is two weeks before the application deadline date is provided later in this section under Exception to Electronic Submission Requirement.

You may access the electronic grant application for the FSCS Program at www.Grants.gov. You must search for the downloadable application package for this program by the CFDA number. Do not include the CFDA number's alpha suffix in your search (e.g., search for 84.215, not 84.215J).

Please note the following:

- When you enter the Grants.gov site, you will find information about submitting an application electronically through the site, as well as the hours of operation.
- Applications received by Grants.gov are date and time stamped. Your application must be fully uploaded and submitted and must be date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system no later than 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. Except as otherwise noted in this section, we will not accept your application if it is received—that is, date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system—after 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements. When we retrieve your application from Grants.gov, we will notify you if we are rejecting your application because it was date and time

stamped by the Grants.gov system after 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date.

- The amount of time it can take to upload an application will vary depending on a variety of factors, including the size of the application and the speed of your Internet connection. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you do not wait until the application deadline date to begin the submission process through Grants.gov.
- You should review and follow the Education

  Submission Procedures for submitting an application through

  Grants.gov that are included in the application package for

  this program to ensure that you submit your application in

  a timely manner to the Grants.gov system. You can also

  find the Education Submission Procedures pertaining to

  Grants.gov under News and Events on the Department's G5

  system home page at www.G5.gov.
- You will not receive additional point value because you submit your application in electronic format, nor will we penalize you if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, as described elsewhere in this section, and submit your application in paper format.

- You must submit all documents electronically, including all information you typically provide on the following forms: the Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424), the Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424, Budget Information--Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications.
- You must upload any narrative sections and all other attachments to your application as files in a PDF (Portable Document) read-only, non-modifiable format. Do not upload an interactive or fillable PDF file. If you upload a file type other than a read-only, non-modifiable PDF or submit a password-protected file, we will not review that material.
- Your electronic application must comply with any page-limit requirements described in this notice.
- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive from Grants.gov an automatic notification of receipt that contains a Grants.gov tracking number.

  (This notification indicates receipt by Grants.gov only, not receipt by the Department.) The Department then will retrieve your application from Grants.gov and send a second notification to you by e-mail. This second notification

indicates that the Department has received your application and has assigned your application a PR/Award number (an ED-specified identifying number unique to your application).

• We may request that you provide us original signatures on forms at a later date.

Application Deadline Date Extension in Case of Technical

Issues with the Grants.gov System: If you are experiencing problems submitting your application through Grants.gov, please contact the Grants.gov Support Desk, toll free, at 1-800-518-4726. You must obtain a Grants.gov Support Desk

Case Number and must keep a record of it.

If you are prevented from electronically submitting your application on the application deadline date because of technical problems with the Grants.gov system, we will grant you an extension until 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, the following business day to enable you to transmit your application electronically or by hand delivery. You also may mail your application by following the mailing instructions described elsewhere in this notice.

If you submit an application after 4:30:00 p.m.,
Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date,
please contact the person listed under For Further
Information Contact in section VII of this notice and

provide an explanation of the technical problem you experienced with Grants.gov, along with the Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number. We will accept your application if we can confirm that a technical problem occurred with the Grants.gov system and that that problem affected your ability to submit your application by 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. The Department will contact you after a determination is made on whether your application will be accepted.

Note: The extensions to which we refer in this section apply only to the unavailability of, or technical problems with, the Grants.gov system. We will not grant you an extension if you failed to fully register to submit your application to Grants.gov before the application deadline date and time or if the technical problem you experienced is unrelated to the Grants.gov system.

Exception to Electronic Submission Requirement: You qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, and may submit your application in paper format, if you are unable to submit an application through the Grants.gov system because—

• You do not have access to the Internet; or

 You do not have the capacity to upload large documents to the Grants.gov system;

### and

• No later than two weeks before the application deadline date (14 calendar days or, if the fourteenth calendar day before the application deadline date falls on a Federal holiday, the next business day following the Federal holiday), you mail or fax a written statement to the Department, explaining which of the two grounds for an exception prevent you from using the Internet to submit your application.

If you mail your written statement to the Department, it must be postmarked no later than two weeks before the application deadline date. If you fax your written statement to the Department, we must receive the faxed statement no later than two weeks before the application deadline date.

Address and mail or fax your statement to: Adrienne Hawkins, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 4W256, Washington, DC 20202-5950. FAX: (202) 205-5630.

Your paper application must be submitted in accordance with the mail or hand delivery instructions described in this notice.

b. Submission of Paper Applications by Mail.

If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, you may mail (through the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial carrier) your application to the Department. You must mail the original and two copies of your application, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the following address:

U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center Attention: (CFDA Number 84.215J) LBJ Basement Level 1 400 Maryland Avenue, SW. Washington, DC 20202-4260

You must show proof of mailing consisting of one of the following:

- (1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark.
- (2) A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service.
- (3) A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier.
- (4) Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

If you mail your application through the U.S. Postal Service, we do not accept either of the following as proof of mailing:

- (1) A private metered postmark.
- (2) A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

If your application is postmarked after the application deadline date, we will not consider your application.

Note: The U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, you should check with your local post office.

c. Submission of Paper Applications by Hand Delivery.

If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, you (or a courier service) may deliver your paper application to the Department by hand. You must deliver the original and two copies of your application, by hand, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the following address:

U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center Attention: (CFDA Number 84.215J) 550 12th Street, SW. Room 7039, Potomac Center Plaza Washington, DC 20202-4260 The Application Control Center accepts hand deliveries daily between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays.

Note for Mail or Hand Delivery of Paper Applications: If you mail or hand deliver your application to the Department--

- (1) You must indicate on the envelope and--if not provided by the Department--in Item 11 of the SF 424 the CFDA number, including suffix letter, if any, of the competition under which you are submitting your application; and
- (2) The Application Control Center will mail to you a notification of receipt of your grant application. If you do not receive this grant notification within 15 business days from the application deadline date, you should call the U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center at (202) 245-6288.

### V. Application Review Information

1. <u>Selection Criteria</u>: The selection criteria for this competition are from the NFP for this program, published in the <u>Federal Register</u> on June 8, 2010 (75 FR 13781) and from 34 CFR 75.210. These selection criteria are listed in the application package as well as this

notice. We may apply one or more of these criteria in any year in which this program is in effect. The maximum score for each criterion is indicated in parentheses with the criterion, and the total maximum score for all selection criteria is 100 points.

The selection criteria are as follows:

- (a) Quality of the Project Design (up to 25 points).
- (1) The Secretary considers the quality of the design of the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the quality of the design of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the extent to which the proposed project consists of a comprehensive plan that includes a description of--
- (i) The students, students' family members, and community to be served, including information about the demographic characteristics and needs of the students, students' family members, and other community members and the estimated number of individuals to be served;
- (ii) The eligible services (as listed in the Absolute Priority described elsewhere in this notice) to be provided or coordinated by the applicant and its partner entities, how those services will meet the needs of students, students' family members, and other community members, and

the frequency with which those services will be provided to students, students' family members, and community members;

- (iii) The potential and planning for the incorporation of project purposes, activities, or benefits into the ongoing work of the applicant beyond the end of the grant; and
- (iv) The extent to which the proposed project will integrate with or build on similar or related efforts to improve relevant outcomes (as defined in this notice), using existing funding streams from other programs or policies supported by community, State, and Federal resources.
  - (b) Adequacy of Resources (up to 20 points).
- (1) The Secretary considers the adequacy of resources for the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the adequacy of resources for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors--
- (i) The adequacy of support, including facilities, equipment, supplies, and other resources to be provided by the applicant and consortium partners;

- (ii) The relevance and demonstrated commitment of each partner in the proposed project to the implementation and success of the project; and
- (iii) The extent to which costs are reasonable in relation to the number of persons to be served and services to be provided.
  - (c) Quality of the Management Plan (up to 25 points).
- (1) The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors--
- (i) The extent to which the proposed project consists of a comprehensive plan that includes a description of planning, coordination, management, and oversight of the eligible services (as listed in the Absolute Priority described elsewhere in this notice) to be provided at each school to be served, including the role of the school principal, the FSCS coordinator, partner entities, parents, and community members; and
- (ii) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of the full-service community school

coordinator and other key project personnel including prior performance of the applicant on similar or related efforts.

- (d) Quality of Project Services (up to 20 points).
- (1) The Secretary considers the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the quality of the project services, the Secretary considers the following--
- (i) The extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project reflect up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice; and
- (ii) The likelihood that the services to be provided by the proposed project will lead to improvements in the achievement of students as measured against rigorous academic standards.
- (e) Quality of the Project Evaluation (up to 10 points).
- (1) The Secretary considers the quality of the evaluation to be conducted of the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the quality of the evaluation, the Secretary considers the extent to which the proposed evaluation--

- (i) Will provide timely and valid information on the management, implementation, or efficiency of the project;
- (ii) Will provide guidance on or strategies for replicating or testing the project intervention in multiple settings.
- (3) The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide valid and reliable performance data on relevant outcomes.

Factors Applicants May Wish to Consider in Developing
an Evaluation Plan: The quality of the evaluation plan is
one of the selection criteria by which applications in this
competition will be judged. A strong evaluation plan
should be included in the application narrative and should
be used, as appropriate, to shape the development of the
project from the beginning of the project period. The plan
should include benchmarks to monitor progress toward
specific project objectives and also outcome measures to
assess the impact on teaching and learning or other
important outcomes for project participants. More
specifically, the plan should identify the individual or
organization that has agreed to serve as evaluator for the
project and describe the qualifications of that evaluator.

The plan should describe the evaluation design, indicating:

(1) What types of data will be collected; (2) when various types of data will be collected; (3) what methods will be used; (4) what instruments will be developed and when; (5) how the data will be analyzed; (6) when reports of results and outcomes will be available; and (7) how the applicant will use the information collected through the evaluation to monitor progress of the funded project and to provide accountability information both about success at the initial site and about effective strategies for replication in other settings. Applicants are encouraged to devote an appropriate level of resources to project evaluation.

2. Review and Selection Process: We remind potential applicants that in reviewing applications in any discretionary grant competition, the Secretary may consider, under 34 CFR 75.217(d)(3), the past performance of the applicant in carrying out a previous award, such as the applicant's use of funds, achievement of project objectives, and compliance with grant conditions. The Secretary may also consider whether the applicant failed to submit a timely performance report or submitted a report of unacceptable quality.

In addition, in making a competitive grant award, the Secretary also requires various assurances including those applicable to Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department of Education (34 CFR 100.4, 104.5, 106.4, 108.8, and 110.23).

3. Special Conditions: Under 34 CFR 74.14 and 80.12, the Secretary may impose special conditions on a grant if the applicant or grantee is not financially stable; has a history of unsatisfactory performance; has a financial or other management system that does not meet the standards in 34 CFR parts 74 or 80, as applicable; has not fulfilled the conditions of a prior grant; or is otherwise not responsible.

### VI. Award Administration Information

1. Award Notices: If your application is successful, we notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notification (GAN); or we may send you an e-mail containing a link to access an electronic version of your GAN. We may notify you informally, also.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify you.

2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements:
We identify administrative and national policy requirements
in the application package and reference these and other
requirements in the <u>Applicable Regulations</u> section of this
notice.

We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the <u>Applicable Regulations</u> section of this notice and include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

- 3. Reporting: (a) If you apply for a grant under this competition, you must ensure that you have in place the necessary processes and systems to comply with the reporting requirements in 2 CFR part 170 should you receive funding under the competition. This does not apply if you have an exception under 2 CFR 170.110(b).
- (b) At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive a multi-year award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the most current performance and financial expenditure information as directed by the

Secretary under 34 CFR 75.118. The Secretary may also require more frequent performance reports under 34 CFR 75.720(c). For specific requirements on reporting, please go to www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html.

- 4. Performance Measures: The Secretary has established one performance indicator for this program: the percentage of individuals targeted for services who receive services during each year of the project period. All grantees will be required to submit an annual performance report documenting their contribution in assisting the Department in measuring the performance of the program against this indicator, as well as performance on project-specific indicators.
- 5. Continuation Awards: In making a continuation award, the Secretary may consider, under 34 CFR 75.253, the extent to which a grantee has made "substantial progress toward meeting the objectives in its approved application" and the performance measures established for this program. This consideration includes the review of a grantee's progress in meeting the targets and projected outcomes in its approved application, and whether the grantee has expended funds in a manner that is consistent with its approved application and budget. In making a continuation

grant, the Secretary also considers whether the grantee is operating in compliance with the assurances in its approved application, including those applicable to Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department (34 CFR 100.4, 104.5, 106.4, 108.8, and 110.23).

## VII. Agency Contact

For Further Information Contact: Adrienne Hawkins, U.S.

Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room

4W256, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 401-2091 or

by e-mail: FSCS@ed.gov.

If you use a TDD or TTY, call the FRS, toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

# VIII. Other Information

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document and a copy of the application package in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) by contacting the Grants and Contracts Services Team, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 5075, PCP, Washington, DC 20202-2550. Telephone: (202) 245-7363.

If you use a TDD or a TTY, call the FRS, toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

Electronic Access to This Document: The official version of this document is the document published in the Federal Register. Free Internet access to the official edition of the Federal Register and the Code of Federal Regulations is available via the Federal Digital System at:

www.gpo.gov/fdsys. At this site you can view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the Federal Register, in text or Adobe

Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site.

You may also access documents of the Department published in the <u>Federal Register</u> by using the article search feature at: www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department. Dated: May 1, 2014.

Nadya Chinoy Dabby, Assistant Deputy Secretary for Innovation and Improvement.

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